

REMARKS

This is in reply to the Office Action dated July 6, 2007. The present application was filed on September 12, 2003 with original claims 1-41. By the present amendment, claims 1, 30, and 40 have been amended. The present Amendment is being submitted with a Request for Continued Examination. The claims remaining in the application are claims 1-30 and 33-41. Claims 1, 30 and 40 are independent. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Examiner objected to the drawings. A new sheet with a new Figure 3E has been added. Full support for new Figure 3E may be found in the specification.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 10, 13-17, 22-26, 40 and 41 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Cole et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0137978). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Independent claims 1 and 40 have been amended to more clearly identify the subject matter applicants regard as the invention.

Amended independent claim 1 sets forth a player tracking device for a gaming machine. The player tracking device is coupled to the gaming machine and is networked to a host computer of a player tracking system. The player tracking device includes a processor, an ID Card reader coupled to the processor and a touchscreen display coupled to the processor. The display is dynamically divided into at least first and second panels. The first panel implements a user interface for displaying information to a user and one or more user-selectable buttons and a keypad. The second panel displays cycling media. The processor receives input from the user through the user-selectable buttons and allows the user to log onto the player tracking system and to access a player account associated with the user. The process further instructs the display to selectively display in response to the user input (1) information relating to the player account of the user stored on the host computer and (2) a live video feed from a user-selected security camera on the second panel. Access to the live video feed being granted based on the identity of the user. In other words, after the player has logged on to the player tracking system, the user may be granted access to the live video feed based on their identity. The information includes total bonus points, total session points, and available cash play.

Cole, in contrast, discloses a dual display gaming station. The Cole gaming station first and second displays 34, 36 which are primarily utilized to allow the player to play Class II and Class III games. However, at least one of the displays 34, 36 may be used to display game information and/or non-game information, such as a movie, the Internet, a video feed from another location, or television (see Abstract). The Cole system includes a separate card reader 52 and keypad 140 (in Figure 1) as part of a player tracking system. Furthermore, Cole teaches that the first and/or second display may be utilized during a process which allows the player to create a player tracking account (see paragraph [0096]).

Typical player tracking systems include a separate display, generally, a 2-3 line alphanumeric display. Applicants believe that such a separate display is shown in the Cole figures (as a separate box) near the card reader 52 and keypad 140. A similar box representing the player tracking display is shown in the other embodiments of Figures 3, 4, and 5. Applicants respectfully assert that although Cole teaches utilizing the first and/or second display during a player sign-up process and for displaying video, Cole still has a separate player tracking display and does not teach streaming video thereon.

Furthermore, although Cole teaches displaying video on one of the first and second displays and allowing the player to sign up for a player tracking account, Cole does not teach allowing the player to log onto the player tracking system and displaying information about the player account including total bonus points, total session points and available cash play on the same display as the live video feed. Any use of the one of the first and second displays in the Cole system would take away from the primary use thereof.

Applicants have amended independent claim 1, such that it is clear that the claimed display is part of the player tracking system and is used to display player tracking points (total in account and in the current session), as well as the total current cash play.

Applicants further state that Cole cannot be utilized to teach the present invention as stated in amended claim 1, since Cole requires an additional display, i.e., two game displays plus a player tracking display.

Additionally, the player tracking device of the present invention is networked to the host computer of the player tracking system. Since the player tracking device is so

networked it is able to retrieve information from the player tracking system, i.e., account information, as well as receive the video stream over the same network connection (whether the live video feed originates at the host computer or another server on the same network).

Cole makes no such teaching. Specifically, Cole, *inter alia*, does not teach a player tracking device which includes a player tracking display which selectively displays player tracking information, including total bonus points, session points, and cash play amounts and which a live video feed from a user-selected security camera.

Similar amendments have been made to independent claim 40. In addition, independent claim 40 includes a virtual bezel which surrounds the entire periphery of the display via which information is displayed. Cole makes no such teaching.

Applicants respectfully assert that Cole does not teach all of the amended independent claims 1 and 40 and therefore the rejection under 35 USC §102(e) is improper and must be withdrawn.

Claims 3, 4, 10, 13-17, 22-26, and 41 are ultimately dependent on either claim 1 or claim 40. Therefore, for the reasons set forth above, and based on their own merits, applicants respectfully assert that claims 3, 4, 10, 13-17, 22-26, and 41 are also allowable.

In addition with specific reference to dependent claim 26, applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection. Specifically, dependent claim 26 requires that the player tracking device confirms that a child of the user is enrolled at a child care facility before a live video feed of the facility is displayed to the user. The Examiner references paragraph [0080] in his rejection. However, paragraph [0080] while discussing a video feed from a child care center, does not include a teaching that the Cole system requires a confirmation that the user has a child at the facility prior to displaying the video.

Claims 2, 5-9, 27 and 28 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cole et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0137978) in view of Acres et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,655,961). Claims 2, 5-9, 27, and 28 are ultimately dependent upon allowable claim 1. Acres does not overcome the limitation of the Cole reference. Therefore, for the reasons set forth above, and based on their own merits, applicants respectfully assert that claims 2, 5-9, 27, and 28 are also allowable.

Claims 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cole et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0137978) in view of Pease et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,326,104).). Claims 11 and 12 are ultimately dependent upon allowable claim 1. Pease does not overcome the limitation of the Cole reference. Therefore, for the reasons set forth above, and based on their own merits, applicants respectfully assert that claims 11 and 12 are also allowable.

Claims 18-21 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cole et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0137978) in view of LeMay et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0032479). Claims 18-21 are ultimately dependent upon allowable claim 1. LeMay does not overcome the limitation of the Cole reference. Therefore, for the reasons set forth above, and based on their own merits, applicants respectfully assert that claims 18-21 are also allowable.

Claims 29, 30, 33, and 37-39 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cole et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0137978) in view of Squeglia et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0156692).).

Claim 29 is ultimately dependent upon allowable claim 1. Squeglia does not overcome the limitation of the Cole reference. Therefore, for the reasons set forth above, and based on its own merits, applicants respectfully assert that claim 2, 5-9, 27, and 28 are also allowable.

Independent claim 30 sets forth a player tracking device for a gaming machine for use by a user. The player tracking device is coupled to the gaming machine and include a processor, an ID Card reader coupled to the processor, and a touchscreen display coupled to the processor. The display is dynamically divided into at least first and second panels. The first panel implementing a user interface for displaying information and one or more user-selectable buttons. The second panel displaying cycling media. The processor receiving input from the user through the user-selectable buttons and instructs the display to display technical instructions in the form of streaming video to the user.

The Examiner recognizes that Cole does not teach the streaming and display of video on the player tracking display to a user. The Examiner utilizes Squeglia to make such a

teaching. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Squeglia teaches a portable unit **14** which must be carried by the user from location to location. Furthermore, the portable unit **14** must be held by the user (see paragraph [0023]). Obviously, Squeglia requires additional hardware, i.e., the portable unit, plus a communications channel which allows the portable unit to communicate with the service shop to receive and transmit information thereto.

In contrast, the present invention utilizes hardware which has been provided for implementing the player tracking system, in particular, the player tracking touchscreen display and after the user, i.e., technician, has logged into the system and been approved, displays the technical instructions via streaming video. No additional hardware is required over what is provided by the player tracking system and no additional communications channel is required.

Applicants respectfully asserts that Squeglia teaches away from the present invention and requires additional hardware and a new communications channel.

Since neither Cole nor Squeglia include all of the limitations of independent claim 30, applicants respectfully asserts that the §102(e) rejection of independent claim 30 is improper and must be withdrawn. Claims 33, and 37-39 are dependent upon allowable independent claim 30. Therefore, applicants respectfully assert that based on the argument above, and based on their own merits, claims 33 and 37-39 are also allowable.

Claims 34-36 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cole et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0137978) in view of Squeglia et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0156692) and further in view of Weiss (U.S. Patent No. 5,611,730). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 34-36 are ultimately dependent upon allowable independent claim 30. Weiss does not overcome the deficiencies of Cole and Squeglia. Therefore, applicants respectfully assert that based on the argument above, and based on their own merits, claims 33 and 37-39 are also allowable.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Application, as amended, is now presented in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited. Applicant believes that no fees are due, however, if any become required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account 08-

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Group Art Unit: 3714

2789. Further and favorable reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted

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October 9, 2007
Date

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